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AUTHORITY
MARVEL® COMICS PRESENTS
WOLVERINE™
AND 3 OTHER MARVEL HEROES IN THEIR OWN ALL-NEW OFF-BEAT ADVENTURES!

MARVEL® COMICS PRESENTS™

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WOLVERINE "SAVE THE TIGER" 1

WRITER — Chris Claremont
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"THE RESCUE" — PART 5 of 10
It takes a lot to kill Wolverine — whose mutant healing factor is proof against any wound — But he's been through a lot, and more. Tonight, his luck, and power, may just have run out.

MAN-THING "ELEMENTS OF TERROR" 9

WRITER — Steve Gerber
PENCILER — Tom Sutton
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"GOD AND COUNTRY" PART 5 OF 12
In northern California, the super-soldier experiment has failed yet again, claiming the life of Senator Wilbur Wycombe. In Washington, Colonel Jody Choate has decided, against the advice of his lawyer, to throw himself on the mercy of the American people and implicate no one but himself in the Latverian arms scandal. In the Florida glades, reporter Mickey Ditillio has escaped the clutches of Zahner and Monteiro. And in the little town of Casagata, Man-Thing and the devil priestess Marea are about to forge a strange and meaningful relationship. . . .

MASTER OF KUNG FU "CROSSING LINES" 17

WRITER — Doug Moench
PENCILER — Tom Grindberg
INKER — Dave Cockrum
LETTERER — Michael Heisler
COLORIST — Petra Scotese

"LURES" — PART 5 OF 8
Needing help to rescue Leiko from an unknown terrorist base, Shang-Chi recruits the former Hong Kong gangster Shen Kuei (also known as Cat), and takes him to a junk floating in the harbor. There, Tarr and Reston brief them on a plan to infiltrate the Yakuza, Japanese gangsters suspected of smuggling arms to the uniting terrorist factions. Returning to the docks, Chi and Cat agree to pose as Yakuza. Behind them, the junk promptly blows up.

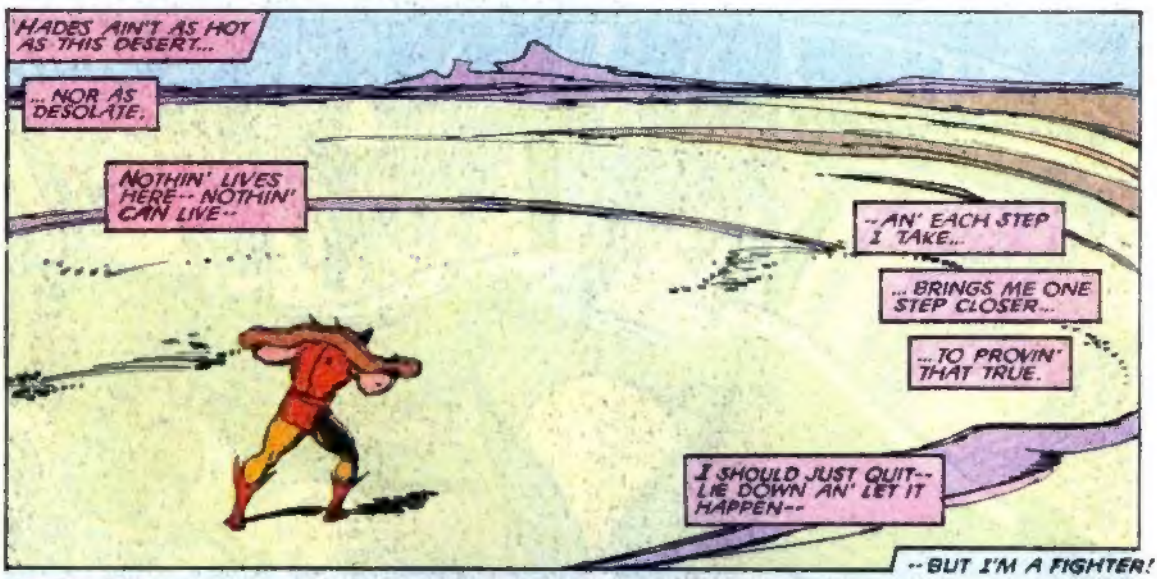
DAREDEVIL "YOU'LL SEE IT WHEN YOU BELIEVE IT" 25

WRITER — Terry Kavanagh
PENCILER — Dwayne Turner
INKER — Michael Gustovich
LETTERER — Todd Klein
COLORIST — Steve Mattson

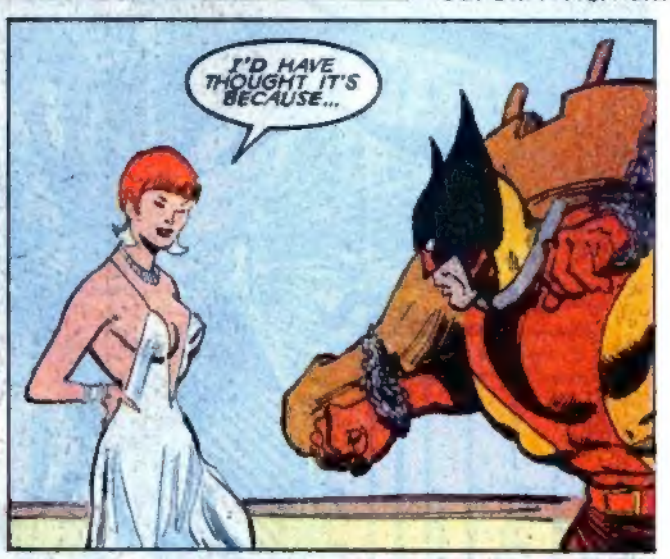
When Matt Murdock was blinded by radioactive chemicals, his remaining senses were heighted to an inhuman degree. Now, he protects the people of New York not only as a para-legal attorney, but also as Daredevil, the Man Without Fear . . .

MARVEL® COMICS PRESENTS™ Vol. 1, No. 5, Late October, 1988. Published by MARVEL COMICS, A NEW WORLD COMPANY. James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice-President. Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Published bi-weekly. Copyright © 1988 by Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.25 per copy in the U.S. and $1.75 in Canada. Subscription rate $15.00 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, $21.00. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS (including all prominent characters featured in the issue), and the distinctive likenesses thereof, are trademarks of the MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. PRINTED IN CANADA.

SAVE the TIGER
STARRING
WOLVERINE
I'M DYIN'!
CHAPTER 5:
The RESCUE


HADES AIN'T AS HOT AS THIS DESERT...
... NOR AS DESOLATE.
NOTHIN' LIVES HERE-- NOTHIN' CAN LIVE--
--AN' EACH STEP I TAKE...
... BRINGS ME ONE STEP CLOSER...
... TO PROVIN' THAT TRUE.
I SHOULD JUST QUIT-- LIE DOWN AN' LET IT HAPPEN--
--BUT I'M A FIGHTER!

OH, REALLY?


I'D HAVE THOUGHT IT'S BECAUSE...

... YOU'RE SIMPLY TOO STUPID...

... TO KNOW WHEN YOU'RE BEATEN!

SAPPHIRE STYX!
MUST BE A MUTANT, LIKE ME--
--SHE'S A VAMPIRE...
...WITH THE POWER TO SUCK THE STRENGTH...
...OUT OF WHOEVER SHE TOUCHES.
AN' SINCE MY POWER IS A HEALING FACTOR CAPABLE OF COUNTERING ANY WOUND OR POISON OR DISEASE...
...I'M LIKE A BOTTOMLESS TANK OF SUPER-CHARGED, HIGH-ENERGY JUICE.
FILLS HER LIKE NOBODY ELSE IS ABLE TO...
...BUT IT ALSO ENABLES ME TO BREAK LOOSE OF HER.
TROUBLE IS, I'M SO WEAK I CAN'T STAY STANDING.
I NEED TIME FOR MY POWER TO RESTORE MY BODY.
TIME'S A LUXURY I DON'T POSSESS.
THE BEARD IS ROCHE, BOSS BAD GUY.
THE MASK BELONGS TO RAZORFIST, ROCHE'S NEW ENFORCER.
THE SMILE, TO ROCHE'S PET INQUISITOR.
ALL FOUR OF 'EM PUT ME HERE.
ALL FOUR ARE GONNA PAY!

I LET MYSELF GO CRAZY--THIS ONCE, I WELCOME IT--AN ALL-ENCOMPASSING, PSYCHIC BERSERKER RAGE THAT NOTHING CAN STAND AGAINST.
SKRAK
AT LEAST, THAT'S THE IDEA.
THIS IS THE VAUNTED WARRIOR--
--THE MAN WHO BOASTS...
...HE IS THE BEST THERE IS?!
THAT IS HIS...
...REPUTATION.
THEY'RE LAUGHIN' AT ME.
I'LL MAKE 'EM SCREAM INSTEAD!
BUT IT ISN'T THEIR BLOOD THAT'S SPILLED...
SHICK
YOU ARE OUT OF YOUR LEAGUE, LITTLE MAN.
YOU WERE BEATEN FROM THE START, WITH LESS OF A CHANCE AGAINST ME...
...THAN AN ICE CUBE HAS OF EXTINGUISHING THE SUN.

I DO NOT KNOW WHY YOU CHOSE TO INVOLVE YOURSELF IN MY AFFAIRS...
... AND, I CONFESS, I DON'T MUCH CARE.
YOU WERE A MINOR ANNOYANCE...
...THAT'S NOW BEEN DEALT WITH...
...ONCE AND FOR ALL.
SPLASH!
SALT WATER...
...MURDER ON MY OPEN WOUNDS...
...DUNNO IF THIS IS REAL...
...OR ANOTHER HALLUCINATION...
...LIKE THE DESERT.
OR MAYBE I'M HOME, IN BED, AN' THIS IS NOTHIN' BUT A BAD DREAM.
THE MOON--
--FACES IN IT...
... MY FOSTER DAUGHTER, AKIKO...
... AN' HER GUARDIAN...
... MARIKO YASHIDA--
--THE WOMAN I LOVE.
M'KID.
END OF THE ROAD, DARLIN'.
WISH I COULD SEE YOU, THOUGH...
...HOLD YOU... KISS YOU...
...ONE LAST TIME.

SHORE'S NOT SO FAR AWAY--
--MIGHT AS WELL BE ON THE MOON.
NOTHIN' WORKS, NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRY, BODY'S MADE O' STONE.
SINKS LIKE ONE, TOO.
WHEN I GO UNDER...
...I KNOW IT'S FOR THE LAST TIME.
ANCESTORS SMILE ON ME--
--LET ME BE IN TIME!
I MUST ACT QUICKLY...
...BEFORE THE SCENT OF HIS BLOOD...
...ATTRACTS ANY PREDATORS!
I WATCHED ROCHE'S VILLA ALL DAY...
...TRYING TO FIND A WAY TO RESCUE THE STRANGER--
BLESSED BUDDHA, WHAT A WEIGHT--!
--THE FATES CAST GOOD JOSS, HE ESCAPED ON HIS OWN.
OR SO I THOUGHT, UNTIL I SAW HIM CHALLENGED BY RAZOR-FIST.
THEIR FIGHT WAS A SLAUGHTER, THE STRANGER NEVER HAD A CHANCE.
CAREFUL-- I MUSTN'T CAPSIZE THE BOAT...
...HAULING HIM ABOARD!
HE FELL INTO THE RIVER, WAS SWEPT OVER THE WATERFALL, OFF THE CLIFF AND INTO MADRIPOOR HARBOR.
HIS SURVIVING THAT ALONE IS A MIRACLE.
GOD--HIS WOUNDS!
HAVE I RISKED MY LIFE...
...ONLY TO RESCUE A CORPSE?!

I'M STILL BREATHING.
TAKES AN EFFORT.
BEEN A LONG TIME...
...SINCE I WAS THIS CLOSE TO THE EDGE.
MARIKO?
HOW'D YOU FIND ME, DARLIN'?
EVEN AS I LOOK, I REALIZE...
...THE SCENT'S WRONG.
NOT MARIKO--IT'S JESSAN HOAN!
WILL WONDERS NEVER CEASE.
A DAY LATER.
REMARKABLE--HE'S HOLDING HIS OWN!
BEST TO KEEP HIM OUT HERE, ON THE FLOATING VILLAGE...
...AND CARE FOR HIM MYSELF.
ASHORE, THERE'S TOO MUCH RISK OF HIM BEING DISCOVERED--
AIYA, THAT NOISE!
CRASH!
SOMEONE BELOW DECKS!
IT CAN'T BE THE STRANGER, HE'S MORE DEAD THAN ALI--
AIEEAHH!
YOU AIN'T TAKIN' ME AGAIN, ROCHE!
NO PLEASE DON'T--
--LISTEN TO ME, I'M A FRIEND!
LIES WON'T SAVE YOU, BUB!
HIS HANDS--
--THOSE ARE BLADES STICKING OUT OF THEM!?!
I'M GONNA...
...I'M...
...GONNA!!

DAYS PASS.
JESSAN NEVER LEAVES MY SIDE...
...AS FEVER TAKES TIGHT HOLD O' ME.
FOR THE LONGEST TIME, I'M HELPLESS AS A BABY.
I MIGHT'A PULLED THROUGH ON MY OWN...
...BUT I WOULDN'T BET THOSE ODDS.

I WATCH A DAWN I FIGURED I'D NEVER SEE AGAIN...
... SAVORING THE SIGHTS, SOUNDS, SMELLS...
...OF THE WORLD WAKING AROUND ME.

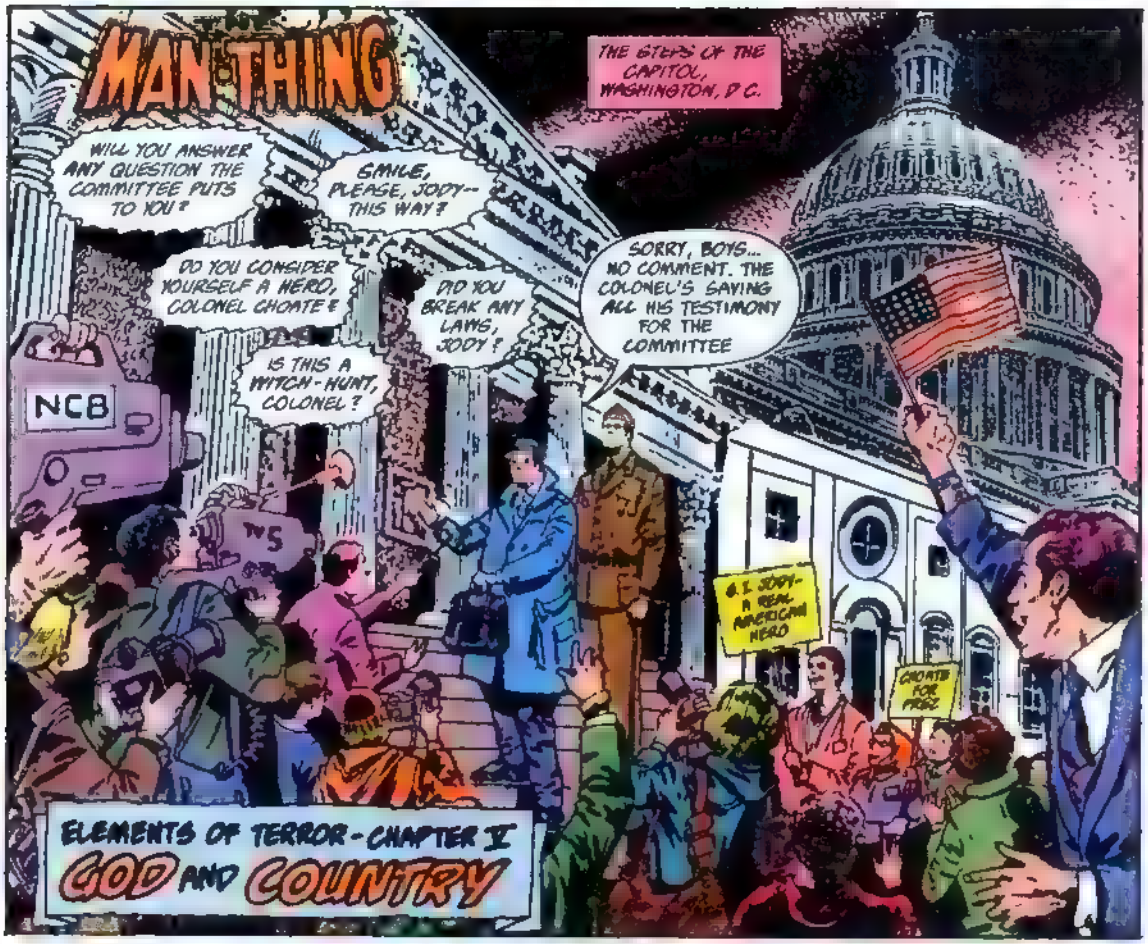
JESS LOOKS PRETTY RAGGED, POOR KID.
SHE'S HAD MAYBE TEN HOURS SLEEP IN AS MANY DAYS...

...WITHOUT A MUTANT HEALING POWER TO HELP HER OVER THE CRUNCH.
TEA AN' SOUP.
Yuhhmmm M...!
THOUGHT THAT'D DO FOR BREAKFAST.

YOU'RE ON YOUR FEET!
BLESSED ANCESTORS-- YOU'RE BETTER!

THANKS TO YOU, JESSAN.
I OWE YOU.
NO MORE THAN I DO YOU, FOR SAVING MY LIFE--

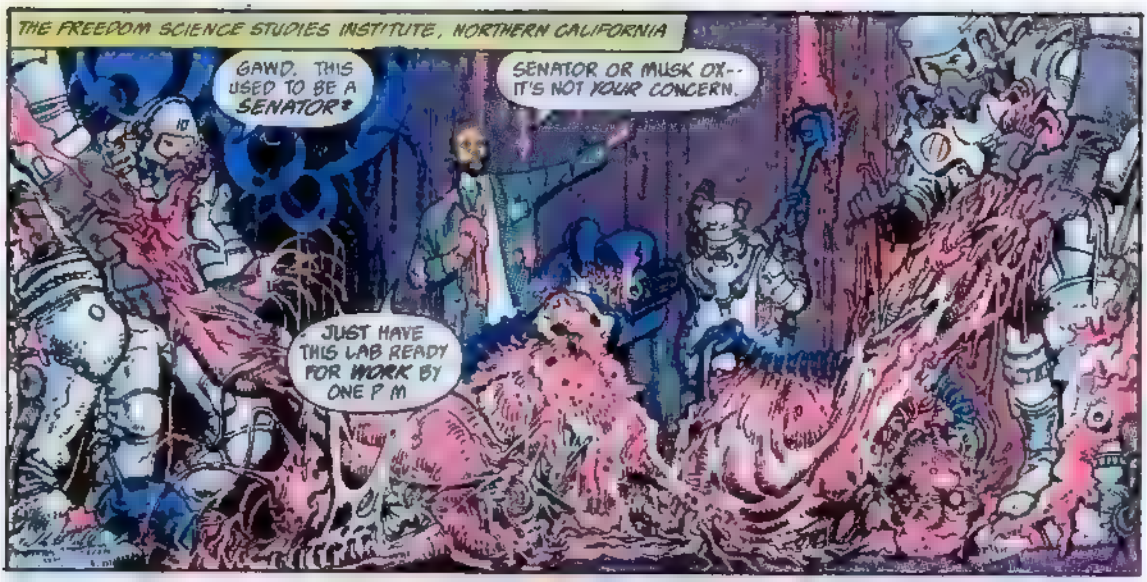
--WOLVERINE!
M!
OOO
NEXT ISSUE: THINGS GET BAD


MAN-THING
THE STEPS OF THE CAPITOL, WASHINGTON, D.C.
WILL YOU ANSWER ANY QUESTION THE COMMITTEE PUTS TO YOU?
SMILE, PLEASE, JODY-- THIS WAY?
DO YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF A HERO, COLONEL CHOATE?
DID YOU BREAK ANY LAWS, JODY?
SORRY, BOYS... NO COMMENT. THE COLONEL'S SAVING ALL HIS TESTIMONY FOR THE COMMITTEE
IS THIS A WITCH-HUNT, COLONEL?
NCB
G.I. JODY- A REAL AMERICAN HERO
CHOATE FOR PREZ
ELEMENTS OF TERROR - CHAPTER V
GOD AND COUNTRY

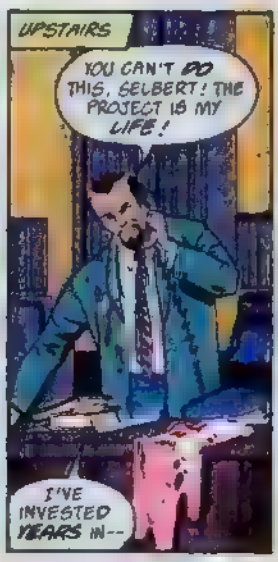
...AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH, SO HELP YOU GOD?
I MOST CERTAINLY DO, SIR
PLEASE BE SEATED

BEFORE WE PROCEED WITH THE QUESTIONING, I WISH TO NOTE FOR THE RECORD THE ABSENCE TODAY OF SENATOR WILBUR WYCOMBE...
...AND THAT THE COMMITTEE PRAYS FOR HIS SWIFT AND SAFE RETURN.

MAY I ADD, SENATOR MILLER, THAT I, TOO, HAVE THE UTMOST RESPECT FOR MR WYCOMBE. AND I HAVE ALSO PRAYED FOR HIS WELL-BEING.

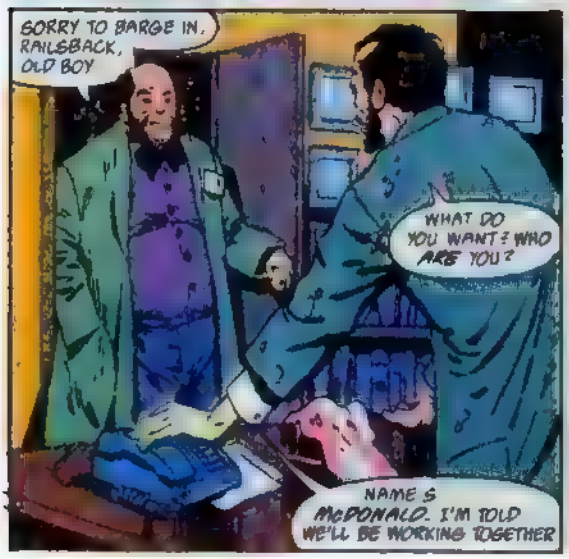

THE FREEDOM SCIENCE STUDIES INSTITUTE, NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
GAWD, THIS USED TO BE A SENATOR?
SENATOR OR MUSK OX-- IT'S NOT YOUR CONCERN.
JUST HAVE THIS LAB READY FOR WORK BY ONE P M

DOC! THEY'RE PAGIN' YOU UPSTAIRS! URGENT PHONE CALL OR--
AS LONG AS I'M IN CHARGE OF THIS PROJECT, I'LL DECIDE WHAT'S URGENT, MISTER!


UPSTAIRS
YOU CAN'T DO THIS, SELBERT! THE PROJECT IS MY LIFE!
I'VE INVESTED YEARS IN--

I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL, RAILSBACK, BUT THE GOOD OF THE OPERATION COMES FIRST.
DIRECT ORDER FROM HIGHER UP
FROM STEELE?

HIGHER THAN THAT. YOUR NEW PROJECT CHIEF WILL ARRIVE SHORTLY GIVE HIM YOUR FULL CO-OPERATION
SELBERT, WAIT-- SELBERT-- HELLO?!


SORRY TO BARGE IN, RAILSBACK, OLD BOY
WHAT DO YOU WANT? WHO ARE YOU?
NAME'S MCDONALD. I'M TOLD WE'LL BE WORKING TOGETHER

NO WAY WE WILL--OLD BOY!

DISAPPOINTMENT'S A PART OF LIFE, LAD BEST BUCK UP AND LEARN TO CARRY ON

CABAGATA, FLORIDA
NO DON'T TOUCH ME STAY BACK
STAY
THWAK!
YOU'RE NEXT, ZAHNER
CALL THAT THING OFF, MAREA-- NOW! OR I SWEAR-- I'LL SNAP YOUR NECK!
MAYBE YOU SHOULD
THAT WASTED MOMENT WILL ENSURE YOUR OWN DEATH--
--AND WE CAN BOTH JOIN THE MASTER IN THE KINGDOM OF FLAME

YOU'RE A LITTLE SICK, Y'KNOW THAT ?
SQUOOK
BUT THE CURE'LL WAIT 'TIL NEXT TIME !
ZAHNER
..WAIT DON'T LEAVE ME
ZAHNER !
DON'T BE AFRAID, MONTEIRO
NEVER BE AFRAID
FEAR IS DEATH FEAR IS FAILURE
FEAR WILL KILL YOU ONLY I CAN SAVE YOU

WASHINGTON:
LOYALTY IS VERY IMPORTANT TO JODY CHOATE, SENATOR
IT WAS IMPORTANT TO ALL OF US INVOLVED IN THIS OPERATION
WHEN THIS CONGRESS CUT OFF AID TO THE COSTA DINORAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS..
...LOYALTY COMPELLED ME TO TAKE EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES
WE LIVE IN A DANGEROUS WORLD, SENATOR
IF WE DON'T DEFEND OUR FREEDOM AND OUR CHRISTIAN VALUES, NO ONE IS GOING TO DO IT FOR US
SO, YES... I EMPLOYED UNCONVENTIONAL MEANS TO HELP THOSE BRAVE MEN IN THE CENTRAL AMERICAN JUNGLES...
..AND TO HELP STEM THE FLOW OF DRUGS INTO THIS COUNTRY
..AND TO SUPPORT THE PATRIOTIC WORK OF THE FREEDOM SCIENCE STUDIES INSTITUTE.
YES, I DID
BUT I DID SO TO PREVENT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMUNIST BEACHHEAD WITHIN A DAY'S DRIVE OF SAN DIEGO.
I DID SO TO STOP THE EROSION OF OUR SOCIETY BY PEDDLERS OF POISON
I DID IT TO GIVE AMERICA A FIGHTING CHANCE AGAINST THE FOES OF LIBERTY
JODY CHOATE IS A REALIST, SENATOR, BUT HE'S ALSO A RELIGIOUS MAN: HE PRAYED BEFORE HE UNDERTOOK THESE ENDEAVORS
AND HE CAN STAND BEFORE GOD AND THIS CONGRESS AND SAY-- HE DID WHAT HE THOUGHT WAS RIGHT.

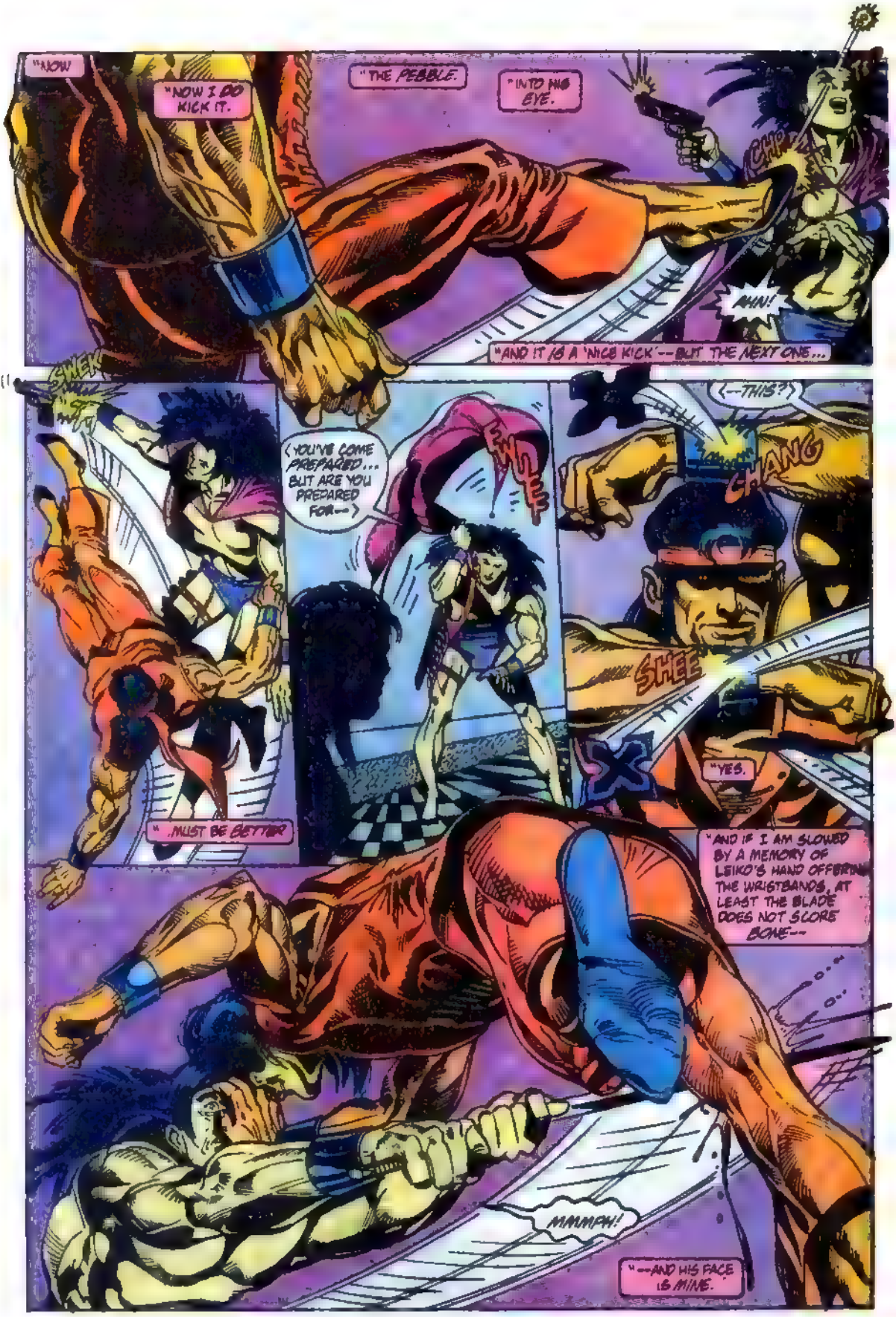
FLORIDA
SKREEEEEE
VACANCY
HEY, GRAMPS-- I NEED TO USE YOUR PHONE!
SLAM!
NOPE. YOU DON'T
PAY PHONE'S OUTSIDE--OVER BY THE CABINS
MAYBE I'M NOT MAKIN' MYSELF CLEAR, GOATFACE! YOU'RE GONNA LET ME USE YOUR PHONE, OR I'M GONNA SCOOP YOUR EYES OUT!
NOW, WHICH IS IT GONNA BE--?
NEWS
WHY, THANK YOU
I LIKE A MAN WHO UNDERSTANDS THE VOICE OF REASON.
SO "DEMON" IS NO LONGER COOPERATING... AND SHE'S HOLDING "TACO BELL"...
AND "RODENT" IS GONE, VANISHED INTO THE SWAMP!
YOU'VE BUNGLED THE ENTIRE MISSION, IN OTHER WORDS!
NO! DON'T TAKE ANY ACTION UNTIL YOU HEAR FROM ME!
--WHEN THE SECURITY OF MY COUNTRY AND THE LIVES OF GOOD MEN ARE AT STAKE, I GET EMOTIONAL, SENATOR--
JODY, JODY, JODY
HOW AM I GOING TO BREAK THIS NEWS TO YOU...?

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
...AND I'LL WANT A THOROUGH BIOCHEMICAL WORKUP ON THESE SPECIMENS, KUYPER...
...THOUGH THE FLAW IN RAILSBACK'S FORMULATION OF THE SERUM SEEMS OBVIOUS.
DIFFERENTIATION OF TISSUE MASSES-- THAT'S THE TICKET
THE SALLIS FORMULA WAS MEANT TO REACT DIFFERENTLY UPON THE DERMIS AND THE INTERNAL ORGANS, YOU SEE
RAILSBACK'S VERSION COULDN'T DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE TWO
SO WHAT WE MUST DO-- IS MAKE THE SERUM SMARTER!
..ENHANCE THE ALGORITHM TO ADJUST FOR AGE, SEX, BLOOD TYPE
..AND BY GEORGE, I THINK WE'VE GOT IT

CASAGATA:
H-HURTS
YES
BUT THAT WILL PASS... SOON... WHEN YOU HAVE BECOME ONE OF US
TASTE THE WOUND, MONTEIRO
PUT YOUR TONGUE IN YOUR PALM
DISCOVER WHAT YOU ARE... WITHIN
GOOD
NOW I MUST TAKE COMMUNION...
...FROM YOUR OWN LIPS
SIT, MONTEIRO. SEEK THE STILLNESS... WHILE I CALL UPON THE MASTER
SPEAK TO ME, DARK ONE REACH INTO MY SOUL LET THIS CREATURE, YOUR MESSENGER, SHOW ME HOW TO LEAD OUR NEW INITIATE, AND ALL YOUR DISCIPLES...
...THAT WE MAY BRING FORTH YOUR KINGDOM ON EARTH.
TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE...

"THE CAR IS NEW, AND PERHAPS GERMAN; I DO NOT KNOW ABOUT SUCH THINGS.
"I ONLY KNOW THAT IT REPRESENTS WEALTH...
"...AND THAT IT BRINGS TWO YAKUZA GANGSTERS TO THIS WAREHOUSE ON THE EDGE OF TOKYO.
YBOWLLL
EH?
<WHAT WAS THAT?>*
* TRANSLATED FROM JAPANESE.
MROWLLL
<EASY—IT'S ONLY A CAT.>
"BEHIND THEM I HISS—
"—AND DROP...
"...TO LAND ON MY FEET.
MASTER OF KUNG FU!
CROSSING LINES
ILURES
YOUR BRIEFCASE CONTAINS MONEY.
CHUD
KRAK
Y-YES...A LOT OF MONEY...T-TAKE IT...BUT D-DON'T KILL ME!

YOU CAME HERE TO BUY A SHIPMENT OF WEAPONS
ONCE YOU HAD THEM, WHERE WERE THE ARMS TO BE DELIVERED?
I.. I DON'T KNOW..
W-WE.. WE WERE SUPPOSED TO WAIT.. FOR A CALL.
"THEN EVEN IF HE IS LYING--
"--THE EASY WAY IS BLOCKED.
"AS EXPECTED.
CHAK
"INSIDE THE WAREHOUSE I WILL FIND MANY AMERICAN WEAPONS AND AT LEAST ONE WAITING MAN.
"BUT... WHAT ELSE?
"A PEBBLE... ON THE FLOOR.
STRATEGIES
"..BUT NOT YET.
<DON'T COME ALL THE WAY-- JUST KICK IT.>
"EXACTLY WHAT I PLAN TO DO...
<NICE KICK>
TUP
<YES.. THIS TAKES CARE OF THE MONEY, MY YAKUZA FRIEND... BUT AS FOR THE ARMS I'M AFRAID I'VE FOUND ANOTHER BUYER-->
<--FOR ALL BUT THIS>

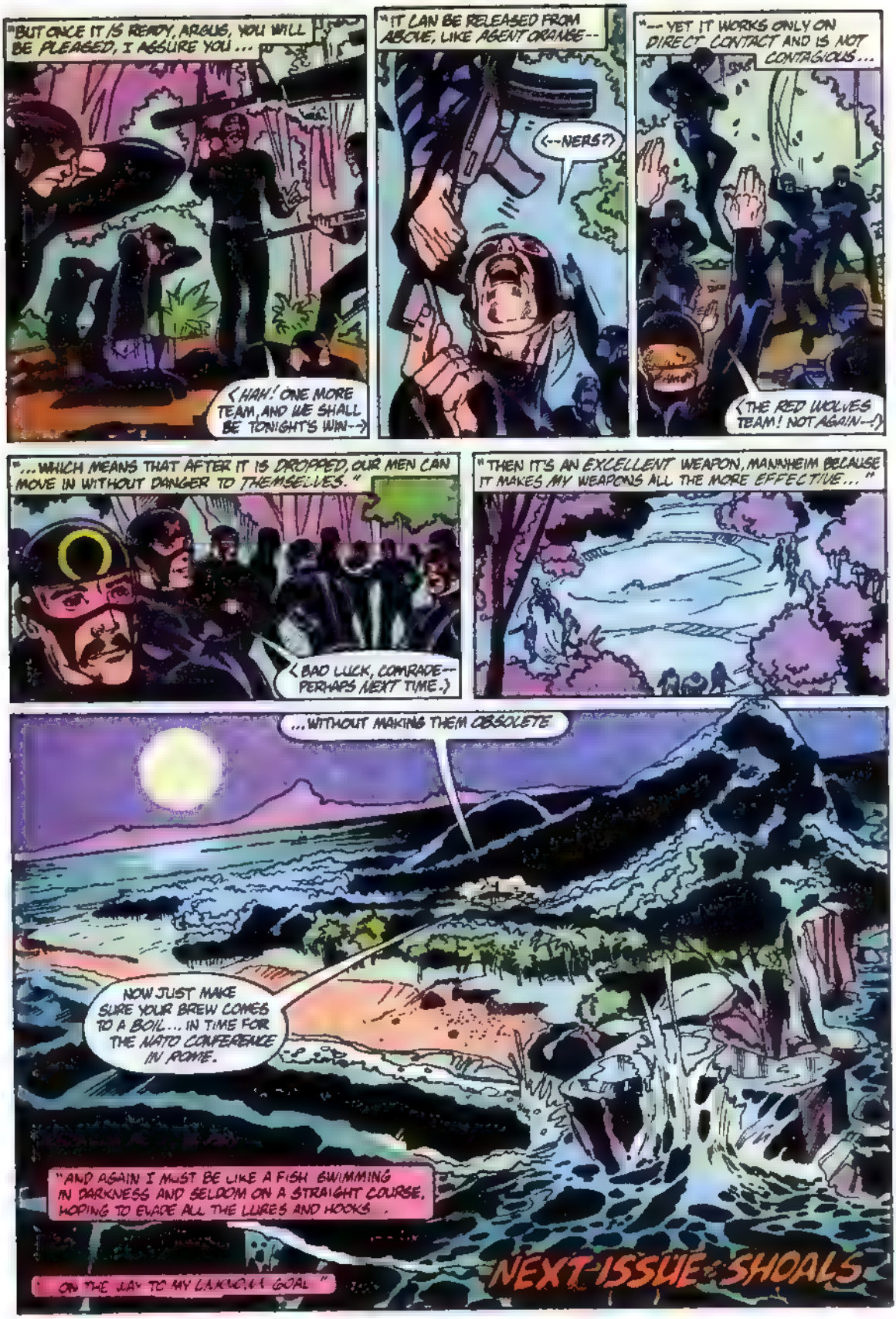

"NOW
"NOW I DO KICK IT.
"THE PEBBLE.
"INTO HIS EYE.
CHK
AHN!
"AND IT IS A 'NICE KICK'--BUT THE NEXT ONE...
SWEK
SWEF
(YOU'VE COME PREPARED... BUT ARE YOU PREPARED FOR--)
(--THIS?)
CHANG
SHEE
"YES.
"...MUST BE BETTER
"AND IF I AM SLOWED BY A MEMORY OF LEIKO'S HAND OFFERING THE WRISTBANDS, AT LEAST THE BLADE DOES NOT SCORE BONE--
MMMPH!
"--AND HIS FACE IS MINE.

HE WILL HIT THE CRATES OF NEW WEAPONS, BUT I WILL LAND NEAR HIS LOADED GUN--
...AND HOLD IT BEFORE THE CRATES SPILL... WHITE POWDER?
WHERE ARE THE WEAPONS?
BEING HELD .. WHERE I CAN BUY THEM BACK.
THEN YOU ALREADY SOLD THEM--AND USED THE MONEY TO BUY DRUGS.
WHICH CAN BE RESOLD AT TEN TIMES COST...OH, MY BACK... AND WITH A TENTH OF THAT MONEY, THE ARMS WOULD BE MINE AGAIN...
...IN TIME TO FULFILL MY ORIGINAL CONTRACT, WITH HASHIOKA HIMSELF, RATHER THAN AN INTERMEDIARY LIKE YOU--AFTER EXPLAINING THAT YOU TRIED TO KILL ME, HOPING TO ARRANGE YOUR OWN ARMS DEAL ELSEWHERE.
HE WOULD HAVE BELIEVED ME
AND YOU WOULD HAVE KEPT NINE PARTS PROFIT
HE DOES NOT KNOW I WOULD NEVER USE THIS GUN, OR ANY OTHER...
MORE THAN THAT. DON'T FORGET THE BRIEFCASE. I WOULD HAVE TOLD HASHIOKA YOU MUST HAVE STASHED IT SOMEWHERE, AND MADE HIM PAY AGAIN!
BUT SINCE YOU HAVE CHANGED THE SITUATION, THERE IS MORE THAN ENOUGH FOR ME TO CUT YOU--
CHUK
--NNN!
KUNCH

THERE WAS NOTHING WRONG WITH HIS BACK...
...UNTIL NOW.
"SHEN KUEI--WHO DOES KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT WEAPONS...BUT WHO SHARES NO SUCH SCRUPLES ABOUT KILLING, WITH GUN OR KNIFE.
YOU WOULD HAVE DIED, BRITISHER.
"OUTSIDE I TOOK CAT'S PLACE, TO GET ASIDE--BUT I AM GRATEFUL HE FOLLOWED.
YES... BUT NOW...
BUT NOW, SINCE WE DO NOT KNOW WHERE HE PAWNED THE WEAPONS, AND SINCE IT WILL LIKELY COST DOUBLE TO FIND OUT, AND TO REDEEM HIS "PAWN TICKET"...
...IT APPEARS WE ARE IN THE DRUG BUSINESS.
"CAT IS RIGHT.
"THE EASY WAY IS STILL BLOCKED, AND THE ONLY TRAIL TO ARGUS IS TWISTED.
"YET WE MUST FOLLOW IT, AROUND MOUNTAINS OF WHITE POWDER IF NEED BE, AND THROUGH EVERY OTHER DETOUR STANDING BETWEEN US AND ARGUS TERRORIST TRAINING BASE.
"BETWEEN ME AND
"...LE KO
NOW LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE.
ALL BECAUSE YOU WOULDN'T TALK.
AND NOW YOU CAN'T TALK... AND I'M FORCED TO SCROUNGE CONVERSATION ELSEWHERE.
SLANT WITCH.

WELL, HERR MANNHEIM, YOU GEEKY KRAUT...
YOU'VE CLAIMED YOU CAN DISTILL DEATH TO A BROTH--SO HOW GOES THE BREW?
LIKE ALL AMERICANS, YOU ARE TOO IMPATIENT, ARGUS.
THIS IS NOT INSTANT POTATOES WE ARE TALKING ABOUT.
THEN WHAT ARE WE TALKING ABOUT, MANNHEIM?
TELL ME AGAIN--I LIKE HEARING ABOUT IT.
IT . AH. . IT ATTACKS THE BLOODSTREAM... THROUGH THE SKIN PORES. AND, AH ..
O-P-PLEASE, ARGUS... HAVE CARE IN HANDLING THAT SAMPLE!
IF IT'S NOT READY YET, MANNHEIM, WHY SO NERVOUS?
HERE--CATCH!
P-PLEASE, ARGUS.. NO GAMES...JUST P-PUT IT DOWN.
=HIIIHHH=
MEIN GOTT, ARGUS! DO NOT EVER DO THAT AGAIN! YOU COULD HAVE KILLED US!
AH, THEN IT IS READY, MANNHEIM?
N-N-NO... NOT YET...

"THIS SAMPLE IS LETHAL... BUT IT WOULD TAKE EFFECT ONLY OVER AN UNKNOWN PERIOD OF TIME.
"AS IS, IT WOULD CAUSE DEATH ONLY IN A MATTER OF MONTHS, PERHAPS AS LONG AS A YEAR, BUT IT WOULD HAVE NO IMMEDIATE EFFECT, NOT EVEN INCAPACITATION.
<NO SOUNDS THIS TIME -- AND WE MOVE FAST.>
<TONIGHT WE TAKE OUT THE BULGARIAN TEAM IN RECORD TIME.>
"I MUST, YOU SEE, FIND A WAY TO MAKE IT MORE CONCENTRATED TO MAKE THE MOLECULES BOND IN TIGHTER CLUSTERS...
<ALL RIGHT SPREAD OUT BEFORE -->
TSPLAT
SPLAT
SPLATS
<WHAT THE--? YELLOW PAINT--THAT'S THE LIBYAN TEAM'S COLOR.>
<WE'RE DEAD-- EVERY MAN OF US-- AND WE NEVER EVEN REACHED THE BULGARIANS!>


"BUT ONCE IT IS READY, ARGUS, YOU WILL BE PLEASED, I ASSURE YOU ...
(HAH! ONE MORE TEAM, AND WE SHALL BE TONIGHT'S WIN-->
"IT CAN BE RELEASED FROM ABOVE, LIKE AGENT ORANGE--
(--NERS?)
"--YET IT WORKS ONLY ON DIRECT CONTACT AND IS NOT CONTAGIOUS...
(THE RED WOLVES TEAM! NOT AGAIN--!)
"...WHICH MEANS THAT AFTER IT IS DROPPED, OUR MEN CAN MOVE IN WITHOUT DANGER TO THEMSELVES."
(BAD LUCK, COMRADE--PERHAPS NEXT TIME.)
"THEN IT'S AN EXCELLENT WEAPON, MANNHEIM BECAUSE IT MAKES MY WEAPONS ALL THE MORE EFFECTIVE..."
...WITHOUT MAKING THEM OBSOLETE
NOW JUST MAKE SURE YOUR BREW COMES TO A BOIL... IN TIME FOR THE NATO CONFERENCE IN ROME.
"AND AGAIN I MUST BE LIKE A FISH SWIMMING IN DARKNESS AND SELDOM ON A STRAIGHT COURSE, HOPING TO EVADE ALL THE LURES AND HOOKS
ON THE WAY TO MY UNKNOWN GOAL"
NEXT ISSUE: SHOALS

NIGHT. TUDOR CITY, MANHATTAN--A RELATIVELY TROUBLE-FREE NEIGHBORHOOD
BEEP BEEP
SCREECH
Honk Honk
SO IT'S NOT NECESSARILY DAREDEVIL'S USUAL TURF
OF COURSE, "RELATIVELY TROUBLE-FREE" ARE THE OPERATIVE WORDS HERE...
Honk Honk
WHEEEOOOO
DAREDEVIL
THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR
"YOU'LL SEE IT WHEN YOU BELIEVE IT"
BEEEEEEEP
SCREECH
EVEN A BLIND MAN CAN TELL THAT THIS KID IS IN SERIOUS TROUBLE
UHHH...

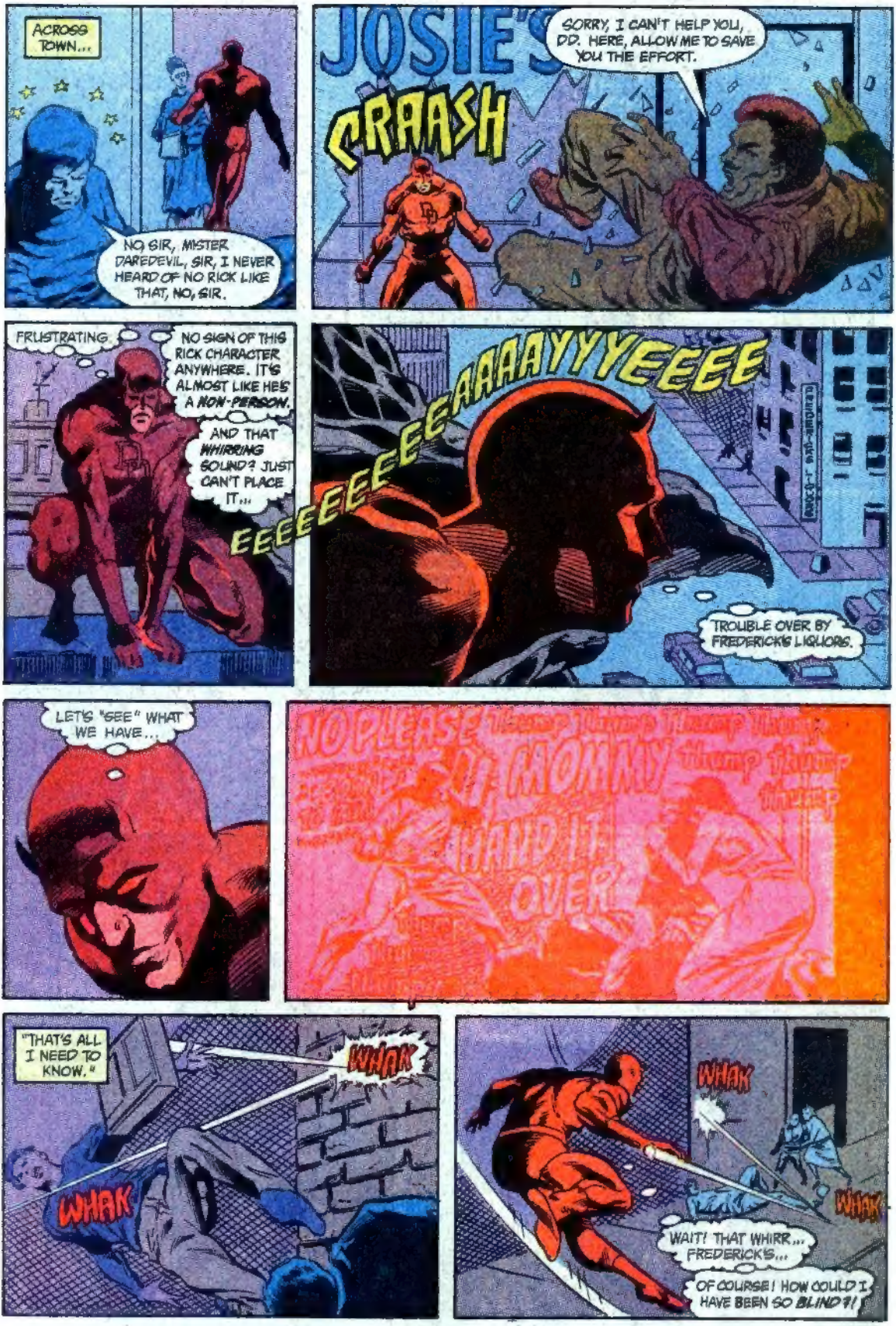
AT TIMES LIKE THIS, MY HYPER-SENSES ARE FAR BETTER ANYWAY
thump thump thump
GRINDDD GRINDDD
HR... HR HURT HR... DOWN IN THE DARK...
HIS HEARTBEATS WEAK, BUT GOING WILD... BESIDES THE OTHER DAMAGE, I CAN HEAR HIS RADIUS BONE GRINDING AGAINST HIS ULNA. HIS ARM IS BROKEN IN AT LEAST TWO PLACES, YET HE'S STILL TRYING TO TELL ME SOMETHING
SQEAK SQUEAL SQUEAK
SOUND OF RATS... HEAT TRACES IDENTIFY AT LEAST FIVE ...TWO INSIDE THAT RADAR SILHOUETTE OF WHAT MUST BE A GARBAGE PAIL
NO TIME TO CHASE THE PERPETRATOR NOW ANYWAY THIS KID NEEDS HELP...
BEEN STALKING ME FOR MONTHS ...UGH, I'VE SEEN HIM ...SAID HE'D BE BACK, UHH...
...AND HE NEEDS IT NOW!
WHAK
HEARTBEAT'S SLOWING TOO FAST... BODY TEMPERATURE'S DROPPING...
BINK
..HE'S GOING INTO SHOCK.
CLIK
EEEEYOOO EEEEYOOO EEEYOOO
PING
HELP IS ON THE WAY, SON.
HE'LL BE... HE'LL BE BACK...
NO, HE WON'T, SON. IF YOU HEAR FROM HIM AGAIN, JUST CONTACT THE MAN ON THIS PIECE OF PAPER AT HIS...

"...HELL'S KITCHEN PARA-LEGAL CLINIC"
PARA-LEGAL CLINIC
FIVE WEEKS LATER..
MR MURDOCK, MR. MURDOCK, I THINK I JUST SAW HIM DOWN THE STREET
WRONG ROOM, BUDDY.
GET IN LINE LIKE THE REST OF US...
.. AND I'LL JUST BE SITTIN' ON MY STEPS, MINDIN' MY OWN BUSINESS, AND THESE — KIDS SAY THE DARNDEST THINGS TO ME
THAT'S ONLY 'CAUSE YOU'RE MAKING VOODOO DOLLS OF US AND STICKIN' PINS IN 'EM AND...
YEAH!
YOU SILLY HOOLIGAN, I'M ONLY DECORATING GINGERBREAD COOKIES TO SEND TO MY GRANDCHILDREN IN NEW ORLEANS
I'VE INVITED YOU ALL HERE TO TALK THIS OUT BECAUSE YOU'VE QUITE OBVIOUSLY CREATED YOUR OWN PROBLEMS.
YEAH?
MR MURDOCK!
HE COULD BE ANYWHERE AROUND HERE
DO YOU EVER HAPPEN TO MAKE ANY EXTRA GINGERBREAD COOKIES, MRS. LINKLETTER?
OF COURSE I DO, LITTLE DEARIE. WHY DON'T YOU ALL COME ALONG FOR A FRESH BATCH RIGHT NOW?
SORRY TO INTERRUPT, MR MURDOCK, BUT IT'S REAL IMPORTANT...TO ME, ANYWAY...
THIS IS THE POLICE SKETCH OF THE GUY WHO'S TRYING TO KILL ME. THEY CAN'T FIND HIM AND NOW I'VE GOTTEN TWO MORE THREATS AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT I DID TO HIM. REALLY...
HIS HEARTBEAT'S OUT OF CONTROL, HE'S SCARED TO DEATH.
MAYBE YOU'D BETTER START AT THE BEGINNING, SON. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
SORRY. MY NAME'S FREDDY. DAREDEVIL SENT ME TO YOU--BUT HE CAN'T HELP ME, ONLY YOU CAN HELP ME.
I WANT TO GET A GUN.
LET'S TRY TALKING TO YOUR PARENTS FIRST.

I'M SORRY, YOU HAVE REACHED 555-1249, BUT MR AND MRS FREDERICK WELLSBORN ARENT AVAILABLE AT THE MOMENT..
NO SURPRISE. DOESN'T MATTER, THEY DON'T BELIEVE ME ANYWAY
NO ONE'S HOME.
BUT I NEED YOUR HELP I NEED PROTECTION, I NEED A GUN.
WELL, I HAVE EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE YOU, FREDDY, AND I WILL HELP IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE. BUT THERE ARE STILL OTHER AVENUES TO PURSUE SO, I'LL JUST LEAVE YOU AT YOUR DOOR
TIME FOR DAREDEVIL TO HIT THE STREETS LOOKING FOR THIS CHARACTER
NO, THIS IS THE ALLEY HE GOT ME IN LAST TIME!
OKAY, FREDDY, ONCE YOU GET INSIDE, LOCK THE DOOR BEHIND YOU AND I'LL GET IN TOUCH AS SOON AS I--
NO! ANOTHER ONE!
ALL RIGHT, IT SEEMS SAFE ENOUGH.
WAIT, LET'S CHECK OUT THE REST OF THE PLACE FIRST HE COULD BE HIDING IN MY ROOM OR SOMETHING
SOON...
FEEL SAFE ENOUGH NOW, FREDDY?
MUCH BETTER, BUT DON'T GO YET, MR MURDOCK YOU WANT SOMETHING TO DRINK? SODA OR SOMETHING?
FINE, FREDDY, BUT JUST A QUICK ONE I'VE GOT TO GET MOVING ON THIS THING FOR YOU
THESE NEW THREATS, NO POSTMARKS, BUT THEY'RE SIGNED "RICK." AT LEAST THIS EXTRA TIME IS PAYING OFF WITH A POSSIBLE LEAD
YOU WANT ICE, MR MURDOCK?
WHATEVER'S QUICKEST, FREDDY
NO PROBLEM. WHAT'S YOUR, HURRY, MR. MURDOCK?
CLICK
WHERE ARE YOUR PARENTS, FREDDY?
OH, THEY'RE OFF IN CHICAGO SO DAD CAN GET ANOTHER MEDAL FOR BRAVERY IN THE LINE OF DUTY
HE'S A COP? THEN WHY CAN'T HE--
RRRRRRING
IF THAT'S THEM, I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO THEM--
NO!
TIME'S ALMOST UP, FREDDY I'M COMING SOON..
UNNATURALLY DEEP, GRAVELLY VOICE SOUNDS DISGUISED SOMEHOW
HAVE TO ZERO IN FARTHER. SOMETHING IN THE BACKGROUND
NO NO NO NO
ROOFTOP THUNDER
YOU SUSPECT...

SOON, BACK IN HELL'S KITCHEN...
FREDDY SAYS HE SAW RICK OUTSIDE MY STOREFRONT, BUT I'VE CHECKED OUT EVERY POSSIBLE SOURCE OF THAT WHIRRING SOUND IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD...
CONSTRUCTION SITES, SUBWAYS, PORT AUTHORITY--NOTHING!
TIME TO CHANGE TACTICS, START LOOKING FOR RICK HIMSELF
FIFTEEN RICKS LATER..
YEAH, THEN I LEFT HER BEHIND THE SCHOOL WITH RICK AND LACEY I SAW...
HA HA HEE HEE HEE HA HA
NO-- PLEASE!
WHICH IS IT GONNA BE, GIRL? "NO" OR "PLEASE"?
WHA...
WHO--?
BLAST! WEIGHT'S ALL WRONG...HE'S MUCH TOO SHORT TO MATCH THE DESCRIPTION.
WHERE WERE YOU ON THE NIGHT OF JUNE 19TH?
I WAS ANYWHERE, MAN--I JUST GOT OUT OF J.D. HALL UPSTATE, I SWEAR
HE'S TELLING THE TRUTH. HEART-BEAT'S ERRATIC, BUT I'VE REALLY SPOOKED HIM
STAY.
KNEW IT WOULDN'T BE THAT EASY
NOW, LET'S GET YOU SAFELY HOME, MAAM

JUST TWO BLOCKS AWAY...
PARA-LEGAL CLINIC
RIINNG RIINNG RIIN CLIK
THIS IS MATT MURDOCK'S PARA-LEGAL CLINIC.
WE'RE SORRY, WE CAN'T COME TO THE PHONE RIGHT NOW. PLEASE LEAVE YOUR NAME, NUMBER, AND SOME INDICATION OF WHAT WE CAN DO TO HELP YOU AT THE SOUND OF THE BEEP.
BEEP
THIS IS FREDDY WELLBORN, JR.... I'M LOOKING FOR MR. MURDOCK...
IT'S RICK... HE'S GONNA GET ME TONIGHT!
I NEED MR. MURDOCK TO COME OVER RIGHT AWAY...OR SOMETHING REAL BAD IS GONNA HAPPEN!
HE'S COMING... RICK'S COMING BACK!
I KNOW IT!
DAD'S GOTTA HAVE ONE SOMEWHERE...?
IT'S REGULATIONS OR SOMETHING, ISN'T IT?
YES!


ACROSS TOWN...
NO SIR, MISTER DAREDEVIL, SIR, I NEVER HEARD OF NO RICK LIKE THAT, NO, SIR.
JOSIE'S
CRAASH
SORRY, I CAN'T HELP YOU, DD. HERE, ALLOW ME TO SAVE YOU THE EFFORT.
FRUSTRATING.
NO SIGN OF THIS RICK CHARACTER ANYWHERE. IT'S ALMOST LIKE HE'S A NON-PERSON.
AND THAT WHIRRING SOUND? JUST CAN'T PLACE IT...
EEEEEEEE
EEEEEEEEAAAAYYYEEEE
TROUBLE OVER BY FREDERICK'S LIQUORS.
LET'S "SEE" WHAT WE HAVE...
NO PLEASE
MOMMY
HAND IT OVER
"THAT'S ALL I NEED TO KNOW."
WHAK
WHAK
WHAK
WHAK
WAIT! THAT WHIRR... FREDERICK'S...
OF COURSE! HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO BLIND?!

IT WAS A TAPE-RECORDED THREAT I LISTENED TO...AND FREDDY'S PHONE NUMBER IS 555-2698, BUT HIS PARENTS' WAS 555-1249...
FREDDY WAS OUT OF THE ROOM JUST BEFORE THE CALL...NO POSTMARKS ON THE LETTERS...
THE NAMES--FREDDY AND RICK...
FREDERICK! HE'S STALKING HIMSELF!
Thump THUMP THUMP CLICK
THAT "CLICK"... HIS HEARTBEAT'S GOING CRAZY...IF I'M RIGHT, I'LL NEVER MAKE IT IN TIME!
GOT TO--
WHAK
NOOOOOO!
CRASH
WHAK
NO NO NO NO NO I'LL STILL KILL THE TWERP!
IT'S OKAY, FREDDY, SOMEONE'S HERE. I'M HERE.
THE ALLEY WHERE I FIRST FOUND HIM IS RIGHT BELOW HIS WINDOW. OUR FIRST MEETING MUST HAVE BEEN A SUICIDE ATTEMPT.
THERE NEVER WAS A "RICK".
I TRIED TO TELL MY PARENTS ABOUT RICK, BUT...
FREDDY CREATED HIM SOLELY TO TERRORIZE HIMSELF, TO GET ATTENTION. WELL, I DID EVERYTHING I COULD...
I TRIED TO TELL MR. MURDOCK THAT RICK WAS COMING BACK TONIGHT, BUT HE WASN'T THERE...
EVEN HE WASN'T THERE FOR ME...
THE END.

FEATURING:
MASTER OF KUNG FU
DAREDEVIL
THE MAN-THING